

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 130819  
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O P 231904Z MAY 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130819

TOKYO FOR GLEYSTEN BEFORE EARLY A.M. DEPARTURE

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: PINT, MOPS, MASS, SHUM, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: KOREA STATUS REPORT UPDATE ON EVE OF YOUR SEOUL  
VISIT

1. FOLLOWING RELEVANT ITEMS SUPPLEMENT OTHER MATERIAL  
SENT TO YOU PRIOR TO YOUR VISIT TO SEOUL.
2. SEOUL COURT SENTENCES AUTHOR AND PUBLISHER  
THE TRIAL OF PROFESSORS LEE YONG-HUI AND PAEK NAK-CH'ONG  
UNDER THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW CONCLUDED MAY 19 IN  
SEOUL DISTRICT COURT WITH CONVICTIONS FOR BOTH MEN. LEE,  
WHO WAS ACCUSED OF PRAISING CHINESE COMMUNISM IN SOME OF HIS  
WRITINGS, INCLUDING HIS COMMENTARY AND SELECTION OF MATERI-  
ALS FOR THE BOOK "DIALOGUE WITH 800 MILLION PEOPLE" IN  
WHICH AN ESSAY BY JOHN KENNETH GALBRAITH IS INCLUDED, WAS  
SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS. PAEK, WHO SERVED AS PUBLISHER,  
RECEIVED ONE YEAR. BOTH SENTENCES WILL BE APPEALED TO  
HIGHER COURTS. WE HAD EARLIER EXPRESSED CONCERN TO THE ROKG  
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OVER THIS TRIAL, AND DEPARTMENT INFORMED ROK EMBASSY  
COUNSELOR PARK MAY 23 THAT THE VERDICT COULD ONLY HEIGHTEN  
U.S. CRITICISM OF THE ROKG AT A TIME WHEN ANTICIPATED  
FURTHER RELEASES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS REGRETFULLY SEEM  
TO HAVE STOPPED.

3. ROK NAVY SINKS NORTH KOREAN BOAT ON EAST COAST

ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 19 A ROK NAVY PATROL CRAFT SANK A NORTH KOREAN BOAT ABOUT 23 MILES EAST SOUTHEAST OF THE EASTERN END OF THE MILITARY DEMARCATION LINE. THE BOAT WAS FIRST DETECTED FURTHER SOUTH AT ABOUT 11:00 A.M. AND WHEN THE ROK PATROL CRAFT OVERTOOK IT, IT WAS FLYING A NORTH KOREAN FLAG. THE VESSEL IGNORED ORDERS TO STOP, AND RESPONDED WITH SMALL ARMS FIRE TO A SOUTH KOREAN WARNING SHOT ACROSS ITS BOW. THE EIGHT NORTH KOREAN SURVIVORS ARE BEING INTERROGATED IN SEOUL. AT THIS STAGE WE DO NOT FORECLOSE THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY HAVE BEEN A FISHING BOAT AS CLAIMED BY NORTH KOREA RATHER THAN AN INFILTRATION CRAFT AS ORIGINALLY THOUGHT. NORTH'S COMPLAINT REINFORCES THIS POSSIBILITY, SINCE PYONGYANG IS USUALLY SILENT WHENEVER THE SOUTH KOREANS APPREHEND AN AGENT CRAFT AS OCCURRED FURTHER SOUTH ON APRIL 28.

#### 4. VISIT OF ADD PRESIDENT SHIM

ADD PRESIDENT SHIM'S WASHINGTON VISIT, HOSTED BY UNDER-SECRETARY OF DEFENSE PERRY, WENT VERY WELL. THE DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON THOSE DEFENSE INDUSTRY PROJECTS WITH WHICH WE HAVE AGREED TO COOPERATE, AND SHIM DID NOT PUSH HIS IDEA FOR A BLANKET BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON DEFENSE R&D COOPERATION. WE BELIEVE WE WERE ALSO SUCCESSFUL IN AVOIDING GIVING SHIM THE IMPRESSION THAT WE REGARD HIM AS OUR MAIN CONFIDENTIAL

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CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE ROKG ON THIS SUBJECT.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** PINT, MOPS, MASS, SHUM, KS, KN, US, (GELYSTEEN, WILLIAM H JR)  
**To:** TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
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